

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 TUNIS 02753 170944 Z

12

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 SAJ-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09

H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01

SS-15 USIA-12 IO-12 NEA-10 NIC-01 RSR-01 /135 W

----- 087664

R 170910 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY TUNIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1894

INFO USINT ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

C O N F I D E N T I A L TUNIS 2753

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, TS, UR

SUBJECT: MASMOUDI VISIT TO MOSCOW

REF: MOSCOW 4801

1. DURING CONVERSATION MAY 15, FONMIN MASMOUDI GAVE US FOLLOWING COMMENTS ON HIS RECENT OFFICIAL VISIT TO MOSCOW.

2. US- USSR DETENTE: MASMOUDI SAID THAT HE TOLD SOVIETS GOT PLEASED WITH IMPROVEMENT US- SOVIET RELATIONS, BUT WORRIED ABOUT DETENTE AT EXPENSE OF SMALL POWERS. HE SAID SOVIETS REPLIED TO HIM THAT US-. USSR COOPERATION CREATED NO PROBLEMS FOR OTHER POWERS. HE CONTINUED THAT SOVIETS ALSO SAID THAT WHILE U. S. PREVIOUSLY EXERCISED " MONOPOLY" THROUGHOUT MUCH OF WORLD, HENCEFORTH U. S. AND SOVIETS WOULD " SHARE" THIS MONOPOLY.

3. MIDDLE EAST: MASMOUDI TOLD ME HE HAD IMPRESSION SOVIETS HAD NO INTEREST IN REACHING A MIDDLE EAST SOLUTION. HE SAID THEY DIDN' T OFFER MUCH IN THEIR REMARKS TO HIM. HE SAID HE
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 TUNIS 02753 170944 Z

QUERIED THEM ABOUT PROVIDING MIG 23 S TO IRAN BUT NOT TO EGYPT, AND DREW NO RESPONSE. HE DID HAVE STRONG IMPRESSION THAT SOVIETS WERE SEEKING TO INFLUENCE EGYPTIANS NOT TO RESUME HOSTILITIES, AND THAT THEY WERE WORRIED ABOUT QADHAFI'S EXCESSES. MASMOUDI HIMSELF LIKENED QADHAFI TO HITLER; PERHAPS THE ANALOGY GROMYKO REPORTEDLY DREW FOR HIM (REFTEL) MADE AN IMPRESSION.

4. PERSIAN GULF: MASMOUDI RETURNED SEVERAL TIMES DURING THIS SHORT CONVERSATION TO HIS WORRIES (COMMENT: WHICH ARE APPROACHING AN OBSESSION) ABOUT SOVIET ACTIVITIES IN PERSIAN GULF. HE SAID HE AIRD HIS CONCERNS TO SOVIETS THEMSELVES, BUT GOT LITTLE RESPONSE. HE SAID HE FOUND IT INCREDIBLE, FOR EXAMPLE, THAT WHEN HE QUERIED SOVIETS ABOUT THEIR ACTIVITIES IN DHOFAR, HIS INTERLOCUTORS (WHOM HE DID NOT IDENTIFY) PROFESSED NOT TO KNOW EVEN WHERE DHOFAR WAS.

SOVIET- TUNISIAN RELATIONS: MASMOUDI SAID HE RAISED QUESTION OF SOVIET AID TO TUNISIA. HE SAID TUNISIANS NOT INTERESTED IN ARMS, BUT IN ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE-- PERHAPS IN CONSTRUCTING DAMS, FOR EXAMPLE. HE SAID TUNISIA PARTICULARLY INTERESTED IN LOANS ON " FAVORABLE TERMS" SUCH AS ASSISTANCE PROVIDED BY U. S. AND CHINA. HE INDICATED THAT HE RECEIVED NO DIRECT RESPONSE BUT ONLY A PROMISE TO LOOK INTO MATTER.

RELPH

CONFIDENTIAL

NMAFVVZCZ

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DETENTE, ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE, FOREIGN RELATIONS, MINISTERIAL VISITS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 17 MAY 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: hilburpw
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973TUNIS02753
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GDS
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: TUNIS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730548/aaaajklv.tel
Line Count: 89
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 73 MOSCOW 4801
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: hilburpw
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 12 DEC 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <12-Dec-2001 by martinml>; APPROVED <14-Dec-2001 by hilburpw>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> mcm 980219
Subject: MASMOUDI VISIT TO MOSCOW
TAGS: PFOR, TS, UR, US, XF, PFOR, (MASMOUDI)
To: AF
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005